DID HUNT KILL JFK?

No, Says Howard, Suing for $2.5 Million

E. Howard Hunt Jr. is pursuing a $2.5 million libel suit against Third Press publishing house over the book *Coup d'etat in America: The C.I.A. and the Assassination of John F. Kennedy.* Hunt claims that the book, written by A.J. Weberman and Michael Canfield, accuses him and Watergate burglar Frank Sturgis of planning and executing Kennedy's murder with the help of C.I.A. and Mafia conspirators. The authors based their case largely on the two men's resemblance to the "tramp photos" of three hobos picked up on the day of the assassination by Dallas police. Acetate transparencies of Hunt and Sturgis are provided with the book, and readers are invited to place them over the tramp photos and draw their own conclusions.

—R S

I am not a tramp: *Howard Hunt (right) claims he wasn't the hobo (left) picked up by Dallas police on November 22, 1963.*

Adler

ing, we should do it ourselves." There are, however, no present plans to "do it ourselves." All this from the man who spent thousands of dollars to co-sponsor and cover an expedition to hunt for the Loch Ness monster.

At *The Washington Post*, metropolitan editor Len Downey says the editors were "wary of coming under control of an outside news organization" and concerned with the team's "credibility." Accordingly, said Downey, the *Post* was sending its own reporter to "work in a cooperative manner" in Phoenix—which seems to mean that said reporter will cover the activities of the 18-member investigatory team.

—ROBERT SNYDER

DID HUNT KILL JFK?

No, Says Howard, Suing for $2.5 Million

E. Howard Hunt Jr. is pursuing a $2.5 million libel suit against Third Press publishing house over the book *Coup d'etat in America: The C.I.A. and the Assassination of John F. Kennedy.* Hunt claims that the book, written by A.J. Weberman and Michael Canfield, accuses him and Watergate burglar Frank Sturgis of planning and executing Kennedy's murder with the help of C.I.A. and Mafia conspirators. The authors based their case largely on the two men's resemblance to the "tramp photos" of three hobos picked up on the day of the assassination by Dallas police. Acetate transparencies of Hunt and Sturgis are provided with the book, and readers are invited to place them over the tramp photos and draw their own conclusions.

—R S

I am not a tramp: *Howard Hunt (right) claims he wasn't the hobo (left) picked up by Dallas police on November 22, 1963.*

PEOPLE PART II?

N.Y. Times Considering New Picture Mag

The New York Times may be impossibly high-minded, but The New York Times Company just wants to see the bottom line. Accordingly, they're busily assembling a new picture-and-caption magazine that's intended to be a direct rival to *People*. The project—which presently involves designing a dummy issue and will probably include some marketing tests in 1977—is now underway at the offices of *Family Circle*, another Times Company holding. The new magazine will most likely be a weekly.

BEN & SAL, BEN & KAY

Familiar Characters Dot Steamy D.C. Novel

The story so far: Nick Gold, executive editor of the *Washington Chronicle*, has two women in his life: Jennie Lynn, his top society writer with whom he's having an affair, and Myra Pell, the *Chronicle*'s publisher whose husband committed suicide. But Gold also has Gunderstein—Harold Gunderstein—the ace investigative reporter who singlehandedly toppled a presidential administration for the *Chronicle*. Now Gunderstein is on to some damaging evidence about Senator Burton Henderson, Presidential candidate and favorite of Nick Gold. Seems Henderson was mixed up in the 1963 Diem assassination. Will Gold publish the story? Does anyone care?

Ben Bradlee—executive editor of Katherine Graham's *Washington Post*, roommate of his star society reporter Sally Quinn and longtime chum of JFK—sure as hell doesn't. Or so he says. Commenting on *The Henderson Equation*, the not-so-subtle new roman à clef whose plot is outlined above, Bradlee hohummed the whole thing. "No one's read it that I know of," he claimed. "There's no interest here."

Author Warren Adler, meanwhile, is itching for a lawsuit that will "make the book." Says the fearless storyteller: "I wrote it as I saw it.... I expect to take my lumps, but *c'est la vie.*"

Calvin Fentress

Bradlee and Graham: *Factors in* The Henderson Equation?

A GET KENNEDY TRACT!